

MARCH

## New Brockton Town Council accepts resignations from two police officers

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council met Monday evening, March 3, for the regular monthly meeting of the council and received notice that two officers have resigned from the police department.

Police Chief Dale Grimes said two officers had resigned from the department. This created a shortage for the department, and he said Lt. Ben Moates has agreed to become a full-time officer with the department. Grimes said Moates was scheduled to begin his full-time work on Tuesday morning of this week.

The Town of New Brockton recently had paid for the two officers to attend and complete training through the police academy. They were under contract to stay with the department for a certain length of time or repay the monies used to send them to the academy.

Mayor Charles Cole said the two officers had each accepted a position with the Hartford Police Department, and officials from Hartford had indicated they had no intention of buying out the contracts for the officers.

"We're going to do everything legally to get the money back," Cole said.

The mayor told council members that one of the two officers had submitted a letter of resignation and indicated in the letter that he would stay part-time until he fulfilled his contract.

During Monday evening's meeting, Cole recommended the council accept the officer's letter of resignation but to not allow him to stay with the department as a part-time employee. Council members voted in favor of the mayor's recommendation.

In regards to the other officer, Cole said he did not submit a letter of resignation, but through the chief's word he said the officer has resigned. Based on this, he recommended the council accept this officer's resignation as well.

Later in the meeting, council member Jeff White thanked Chief Grimes for what he does for the town. He said he knows the past few weeks have been trying for Grimes, and he just wanted to say thanks.

Council member Cal Donnia Howard echoed those remarks and said, "What would we do without you?"

Mayor Cole updated council members Monday evening on the Highway 84 bypass saying he has met with the local engineer for the project, and they are trying to think of things to do to make it safer.

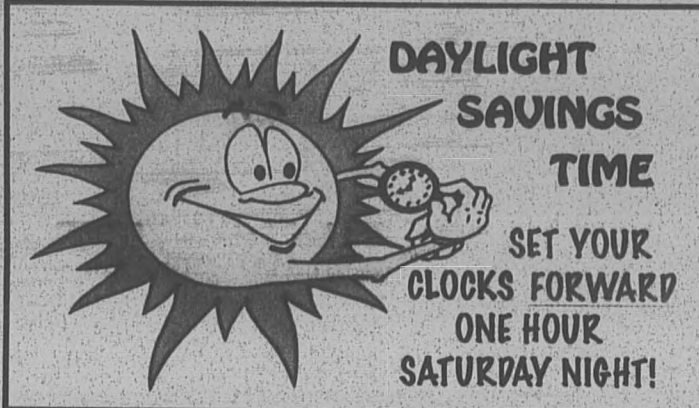
Cole said motorists are still going the wrong way on the road indicating he got several calls last week regarding motorists traveling the wrong way. On the day he met with the engineer, the mayor said they stood and watched traffic on the Elba side of the bypass and it appeared that most of the people confused were local people.

"This is something we're going to have to get used to," Cole said. "I'm still working with DOT, and they are concerned."

Under new business, council members discussed the BamaJam event scheduled for June 5-7 in Coffee County.

Mayor Cole said he believes this event is going to be good for the entire county, and New Brockton needs to work now to come up with ideas for promoting the town and its resources for music fans that will be visiting during those days.

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## Elba High School provides ACCESS to students

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba High School serves as an ACCESS (Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educators and Students Statewide) site for distance learning, and recently took a giant step forward in offering more to students with the creation of a 21<sup>st</sup> century distance learning classroom.

ACCESS provides Elba High School with equal access to high quality instruction, an infrastructure that delivers quality learning opportunities and greater equity for students through 21<sup>st</sup> century technology.

According to Jeff Ellis, technology coordinator for Elba City Schools, there are two sides of ACCESS.

The school has a web-based lab that allows students to take courses online. A facilitator who serves as the go between for the course instructor and the student manages the class. Christy Laramore serves as the facilitator for Elba High School's web-based lab.

According to Laramore, there are 19 Elba High School students taking a variety of web-based classes this semester. The lab allows students to take different courses during the same class time.

In it's full capacity, Ellis said the web-based lab could accommodate 24 students taking 24 different classes at one time.

The other side of ACCESS is the IVC (Interactive Video Conferencing) lab.

Elba High School received notification last summer about a grant for this lab. Funding came through in late October, and the lab was fully installed in January.

Ellis said the school received an \$85,000 grant from the state for the IVC lab, and the grant funds were used to purchase required equipment for the lab including a Codec - technology for compressing and decompressing data; cameras; monitors and/or projectors; interactive whiteboard (interactive boards); 25 tablet computers; wireless port or router; and a DVD player/recorder.

The program allows for content sharing which Ellis said the school can either send or receive information. He said three teachers at Elba High are currently trained to use the lab based on the courses they teach, but the school hopes to add more in the future.

According to Ellis, the teachers will be able to teach classes through video conferencing to other schools across the state. He said the lab is ready for it now, but the school is not yet on

Please See ACCESS, Page 12



Elba High School math teacher Yvette Akridge utilizes the IVC lab with her Algebra I class. Students watch as Akridge explains a math concept by using the interactive whiteboard. Instruction through this technology can be shared with other schools. The school can also receive instruction, and students would see the instructor via monitors in the classroom. This classroom is made possible by the ACCESS Distance Learning program funded by the state.



Cynthia Pearson, a 16-year councilwoman for the City of Brundidge, speaks to New Brockton Elementary School students during an assembly held last Friday, Feb. 29, in celebration of Black History Month. Pearson encouraged students to be themselves and live their own dreams.

## In celebration of Black History Month Cultural Diversity Assembly held at NBES

by Brian Blair, Staff Writer

Students at New Brockton Elementary School left from the Cultural Diversity Assembly, held on Friday, Feb. 29, feeling motivated following a presentation by Cynthia Pearson.

Students in grades K-6th were present at the assembly, and as is custom started things by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Students were lead in the pledge by the African-American Study Club from New Brockton Elementary School. The club also sang "Lift Every Voice and Sing" and "When the Saints Go Marching In."

Deborah Herron introduced Cynthia Pearson as the guest speaker for the assembly. Pearson is a native of Brundidge, Ala. She holds a BS degree in accounting.

Pearson is a 16-year councilwoman for the City of Brundidge, the youngest female to hold public office in Brundidge, and she is the first African American to hold office in District 4.

"I didn't have a clue what to say to keep the interest of elementary students," Pearson began. "But my sister, Mrs. Burrows, told me just to be myself, so, that's what I'm going to do."

Pearson told students she was going to talk to them about simply being themselves and living their own dreams.

"You need to obey your parents, teachers and elders," she told students during the assembly. "They are the ones who love you."

Pearson continued by telling students they need to get their education because it would be their key to success. She also emphasized that students need to stay away from gangs, violence, drugs and alcohol.

"I heard one time that Black History was only celebrated for one month per year," said Pearson. "We need to remember the struggles of our ancestors with day by day history, not one month a year."

Pearson also added that students could not feed on others' struggles.

"You must be yourself and learn from your forefathers and mothers," Pearson added. "Stand up and say that you have a dream. Work and discipline will then help you to achieve those dreams."

After the moving speech, the program included a Power Point presentation about famous black leaders, along with teenage black leaders in today's culture that the children would recognize.

The program ended as the African American study club sang, "This Little Light of Mine."

## Elba Lions Club holds very successful pancake breakfast



Elba Lions Club members Dr. Joseph Meloni (left) and Rex Boutwell (right) accepted the all-important job last Saturday morning of cooking pancakes during the annual Elba Lions Club Pancake Breakfast. They reportedly kept the pancakes flipping and the line flowing as many local citizens stopped in to enjoy the food.

High School All Star Game.

In regards to the monies for local sight project, the Elba Lions Club provided eye exams/glasses for two Elba residents.

Camp Seale Harris is a camp in northern Alabama for children with diabetes. Last year, over 400 children attended with two from New Brockton.

The Elba Lions Club is a member organization of Lions Club International, a worldwide organization with chapters in virtually every country in the world. Lions Club began in Evansville, Ind., in 1917 and its principal purpose is to support programs to prevent blindness and to aid people in surgical care for eye diseases. The Lions Club International also supports medical research, vocational research and disaster relief.

As indicated by the club's monetary support to other organizations, the Elba Lions Club supports children in its quest to make Elba a better place to live.

## Area Happenings

U.S. SENATOR RICHARD SHELBY will join residents of Coffee County for a county visit Saturday, March 8, at 8 a.m. The visit, which is open to the public, will be held at Cuts Restaurant, 417 E. Lee Street, Enterprise.

THE SOUTHEAST ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, March 6, (TONIGHT) at 7 p.m., at the Coffee County Farm Center. Anyone interested in the honeybee is welcome to attend. For more information call Al Liepins at 334-566-7340 or Jerry Whitaker at 334-894-2077.

THE ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is planning a Legislative Breakfast for Friday, March 21. For more information, contact the Elba Chamber of Commerce at 897-3125.











# SCHOOLS

## Announcements:

• March 13 - EES Report Cards go home  
• March 3-7 - Book Fair at EES Library  
• March 3-7 - AHSGE at EHS  
• March 15 - Miss Elba  
• March 20 - Teacher Inservice/Student Holiday at EES/EHS  
• March 21 - Holiday at EES and EHS

• March 24-28 SAT/Incentive Week  
• March 29 - Prom  
• March 31-April 11 - Testing at EES and EHS  
• Yearbooks are on sale for \$45. Contact the journalism staff at EHS for more information. Extras will remain on sale. (\$97-2266)

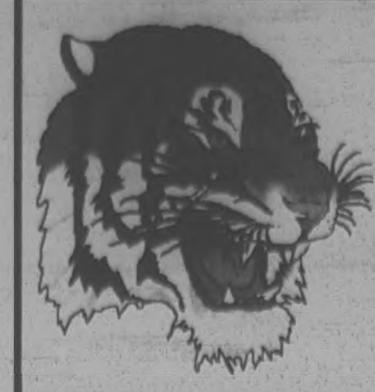
• Elba Hoodies and T-shirts are available. Long-sleeve T-shirts are \$12 and \$13, and Hoodies are \$20, \$21, and \$22. Contact the journalism staff. (\$97-2266)

**Upcoming Baseball Games**  
• March 6 - (JV) Elba vs. Straughn (Away)  
• March 8 - (Varsity) Elba vs. Slocumb (Away)

**Upcoming Softball Games**  
• March 7 - (Varsity) Elba vs. Kingston (Away)  
• March 8 - (Varsity) Elba vs. Brantley (Here)  
• March 24 - (Varsity) Elba vs. Straughn (Away)

**Upcoming Golf Matches**  
• March 10 - 12:30 @ Andalusia  
• March 13 - 1:00 @ Elba (New Brockton and Enterprise)

• March 18 - 8:00 @ Tartan Pines (Enterprise)  
• March 24 - 1:00 @ Tartan Pines (New Brockton)



## Tiger Tales

Editors:  
Erica Daniels &  
Kelly Corder

## Renovations continue at baseball & softball fields

by Tiffany Bynum

Anyone passing by the softball and baseball fields over the past several months may have noticed a number of renovations taking place.

Many days, afternoons following long days at work, Saturdays and even Sundays after church, Coach Mike Buckelew, Mr. Mike Carney, many baseball parents and players, along with a couple of contract workers, have been working hard to upgrade the fields.

On the softball field a two-foot block wall behind the backstop with a black vinyl fence and a backstop not have been added. The dugouts have been blocked up, and the drainage has been improved.

Also, new soil has been added around the backstop, and fencing has been renovated and upgraded. In addition, new clay and crimson stone has been put onto the infield.

On the baseball field, there is also a new two-foot block wall behind the backstop with a black vinyl fence and backstop net. Fencing has also been upgraded and new clay and crimson stone have been placed on the field.

In addition, windscreen and piping have been added to the outfield. Also, new concrete slabs have been added behind the backstop and bleachers.



## Scholars Bowl Team competes in Andalusia

by Yoquesha Terry

On Friday, Feb. 22, the Elba High School Scholars Bowl team went to LBW in Andalusia for competition. The scholars bowl consists of a senior and junior team. The senior team consists of Ashley Carpenter, ToShamba Jones, April Price, Taitiana Parker, Yoquesha Terry and Ashton Rodriguez. The juniors team consists of April Finadore, Megan Sullivan, Shannika Pruitt, Cortlin Lee, Shelby Adcock and Jamison Baker.

The sponsor for the Scholars Bowl team is Mr. Ricky Carlie. The teams competed in 14 separate rounds against surrounding and distant schools.

The teams did not come home with a trophy but performed well overall.



Senior members of the Scholars Bowl team

## Faculty outscore seniors in annual basketball game

by Erica Daniels

Elba High School held its annual Senior/Faculty basketball game Friday, Feb. 22, sponsored by Sr. Beta.

All of the money raised by Sr. Beta from this event goes to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The senior guys did not get off to a great start, but they played an overall great and challenging game. Coach Carney led the faculty with 12 points, and Mr. Hammonds fell in

behind with a total of 9 points. The senior guys were led by Trey Martin with 11 points, and Randall Caldwell fell in behind him with a total of 9 points.

The faculty won with a score of 48-43. The crowd enjoyed the game and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation scored the biggest win of all.



Female faculty members cheer their fellow teachers to victory

## Student Spotlight

by Kimberly Cooks



This week's student spotlight is junior Jason Mitchell. He is the 17-year-old son of John and Pamela Mitchell.

Jason's hobbies and interests include: football, basketball and reading. He plans to attend Troy University or the University of Alabama after graduation to major in medicine and become a physical therapist.

When asked to describe himself he says, "easy-going, hard working and determined."

**SUPPORT OUR YOUTH & LOCAL SCHOOLS!!!**

**E.E.S. Menu**  
March 10-14, 2008

**BREAKFAST**  
Monday - Blueberry Muffin, Cheese, Cereal, Juice, Milk  
Tuesday - Pancake Pup w/Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk  
Wednesday - Breakfast Bagel, Cereal, Juice, Milk  
Thursday - Biscuit w/Jelly, Sausage Patty, Cereal, Juice, Milk  
Friday - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk

**LUNCH**  
Monday - Pizza, Mexican Corn, Broccoli w/Cheese, Applesauce, Milk  
Tuesday - Burrito w/Cheese, Rice, Green Beans, 1/2 Orange, Milk  
Wednesday - Cheeseburger, Tater Tots, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, Oatmeal Cookie, Milk  
Thursday - Corn dog, Turnips, Macaroni & Cheese, Cornbread, 1/2 Apple, Milk  
Friday - Oven Fried Chicken, Potato Salad, Black-eyed Peas, Roll, Fruit Cocktail, Milk

**IT'S PROM TIME**

Get Your Tux at  
**Robbie and Sons Cleaners.**  
We have  
**Burch and Hatfield**  
and  
**Jim Massey**  
**ROBBIE & SONS**  
On the Sq. Elba, AL 897-2457

Over 10,000 locations worldwide.

Join Curves and feel good. Really good.



Join Curves during our 10th Annual Food Drive. Bring in a bag of non-perishable food items between March 9th and March 15th, and join Curves for just \$30. All groceries will be donated to local food banks.

Curves YOUR CURVES WILL AMAZE YOU!

# SCHOOLS

## Focus on Faculty

(Career Tech Teachers)

by Cera Adkins and Carolyn Becker

**John McCrory**  
When is your birthday?

September 26  
How long have you been teaching? 18 years  
What do you think about Zion Chapel? LOVE IT!!!  
What are your hobbies? Hunting, Fishing, Reading  
What clubs/organizations are you involved in? FFA  
What is your biggest achievement? My Family  
Do you have any children? Yes, 2  
What college(s) did you attend? Auburn  
Auburn or Alabama? Alabama

**Joan Hobbs**  
When is your birthday? September 1, 1952  
How long have you been teaching? 20 years  
What do you think about Zion Chapel? Great place to work—great community spirit  
What are your favorite things about teaching? Seeing students graduate and go on to become successful family members on in their career.  
What are your hobbies? Cooking, Reading  
What clubs/organizations are you involved in? AACTE church "praise learn"  
What is your biggest achievement? Rearing two children alone while returning to AU and getting my masters  
Do you have any children? 2 Kevin and Keri - 2 grandchildren  
What college(s) did you attend? EOC, AU  
Auburn or Alabama? Auburn

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What college(s) did you attend? EOC, AU  
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**Paige Watson**  
When is your birthday? August 3rd  
How long have you been teaching? This is my third year  
What do you think about Zion Chapel? I love it!!!! I consider each and every child to be special and wonderful. I love them just as they are my own.  
What is your favorite thing about teaching? The children!!  
What are your hobbies? Running, (any form of working-out) shopping, spending time with husband (and family)  
What clubs/organizations are you involved in? Kappa Delta Chapter Advisory Board Pike County Junior League  
What is your biggest achievement? Married the most wonderful man in the world!!  
What is your most embarrassing moment? I was running one afternoon, zoned out and loving my life when all of a sudden I fell!! Asphalt burn HURTS!!!  
Do you have any children? No, but I have a 13-year-old Jack Russell named Ralph and Rotweiler named Nala  
What college(s) did you attend? Troy (State) University Auburn or Alabama? Auburn!!!  
Anything else interesting or unique that you'd like to share? I have one sibling, Perry Mobley, Whom has blessed my life with his 2 children: They are Harlem (6) and Ellie Grace (3) he is married to one of my best friends, Jennifer Mobley. I enjoy spending as much time as possible spoiling Harlem and Ellie Grace.

**Stephanie Collier**  
When is your birthday? February 16 through the 22, 2008  
How long have you been teaching? 22 years  
What do you think about Zion Chapel? Great place to work—great community spirit  
What are your favorite things about teaching? Seeing students graduate and go on to become successful family members on in their career.  
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**Zion Chapel School**  
**REBEL NEWS**  
Julie Norris, Sponsor  
Sheena Hussey, Editor

## Students get a reality check

by Kyle Tankersley and Stephanie Berry

On Thursday, Feb. 14, ZC juniors got to participate in a special program provided by Alabama Cooperative Extension System and Auburn University.

The Reality Check program, a real-life simulation, gives young people the opportunity to take a brief glance into the future in a fun and exciting way. Students get the opportunity to write checks, record transactions, and

manage fake checking accounts. Reality check provides students with real life experience. In the program, everyone was 25-years-old and the primary source of financial income in their household.

Reality check addressed financial management on a level that students could understand. It gives a great perspective on what real life is all about.

**Activities highlight FFA Week at Z.C.**

by Tiffany Bryan & Rod Rider

February 16 through the 22, ZC held its annual FFA week. They started the week off with a cookout, in which 28 of the members attended, where they played numerous games and ate chicken, hamburgers, and hot dogs. Tuesday, a meeting was held to discuss the arrangements for the FFA banquet.

Wednesday was dedicated to ATV safety. All of Coach McCrory's classes participated throughout the day to learn the proper way to use an ATV. Tractor safety was the primary focus for Thursday. Students learned how to be safe while operating tractors.

Friday was scheduled to be the petting zoo, but due to inclement weather, it was postponed to a later date.

**Band receives superior ratings at competition**

by Casey Rushing and Robby Thrash

The Zion Chapel Band attended the district competition Wednesday, Feb. 13, at Troy University.

The band was recommended to go to state by obtaining superior scores (all 1s). The band performed three songs: Habitat by John Higgins. This is my Father's World by Franklin Sheppard and Fred Allen, and Coast Guard's March by K.L. King.

The band members prepared for the district competition by practicing after school hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays and practicing during their seventh period band class.



## Stephanie Collier represents Zion Chapel at essay contest luncheon in Tuscaloosa

by Brittany Layton & Brittany Cardwell

Stephanie Collier (above), a senior at ZC, recently participated in an essay contest sponsored by the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

Stephanie's essay was chosen from ZC to advance to the state-wide contest. The contest was open to sophomores, junior, and



**THE ZION CHAPEL HIGH SCHOOL NETWORK CLUB** recently enjoyed a visit Thursday, Feb. 28, to the Elba Police and Fire departments. NETWORK represents Networking Enhances the Work of Resourceful Kids. The NETWORK organization has recently been developed within the Coffee County School System. Pictured above are the members of the NETWORK club in grades 7-12 with Elba Fire Chief Danny Jordan. They include: Amy Gilmore, Kim Smith, Kayla Hall, Tracy Senn, Kyle Kelley, Adam Hartley, George Day, Shanna Simmons, Brittany Acreman, Nicole Wallace, Zach Gilbert, Summer Parker, Clay Senn, Alex Archie, Ray Arnette, Sammy Harris and Jason Hartley.

## Skinner named Teacher of the Year by Altrusa International of Jack

by Cristen Patterson

The 2008 Teacher's Banquet for Zion Chapel Schools was held Thursday, Feb. 21, sponsored by Altrusa International of Jack.

Altrusa members had the opportunity to show their appreciation for teachers from Zion Chapel and recognized teachers for their various years of service to the Zion Chapel School community. Member Wyndi Cotton

introduced the honored guest speaker of the evening, Superintendent of Enterprise City Schools, Dr. Jim Reese.

Dr. Reese encouraged the teachers to do three things in their teaching: learn students names as quickly as possible, let students see them at activities or events that their students were involved in and find something positive to say about every student. According to Dr. Reese, "You become an effective

teacher when a student wants to do well in order to please you as a teacher. And they want to please you when they see that you care."

Altrusa president Jennifer Flowers closed the ceremony with the Altrusa Benediction. All of the Altrusa members worked hard to ensure the banquet was a big success.

After a few words of acceptance and a heart felt thank you from Ms. Skinner,

Betty McIntosh introduced the 2008 Teacher of the Year by saying, "The postal service had a slogan about delivering mail in rain, hail, sleet, and snow. She arrives at school early each day. She is the first and last face that our car riders see

every morning and afternoon, whether it is rain, hail, sleet, or snow. She opens car doors for them as they arrive and as they leave. She comes in wet from the rain, frozen from the cold, or wilted from the heat. She knows every vehicle, its color, and which child is supposed to get on with which driver. She knows each child by name. She is one of the toughest teachers that I know. Ms. Sandra Skinner."

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Betty McIntosh introduced the 2008 Teacher of the Year by saying, "The postal service had a slogan about delivering mail in rain, hail, sleet, and snow. She arrives at school early each day. She is the first and last face that our car riders see

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introduced the honored guest speaker of the evening, Superintendent of Enterprise City Schools, Dr. Jim Reese.

Dr. Reese encouraged the teachers to do three things in their teaching: learn students names as quickly as possible, let students see them at activities or events that their students were involved in and find something positive to say about every student. According to Dr. Reese, "You become an effective

teacher when a student wants to do well in order to please you as a teacher. And they want to please you when they see that you care."

Altrusa president Jennifer Flowers closed the ceremony with the Altrusa Benediction. All of the Altrusa members worked hard to ensure the banquet was a big success.

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# SPORTS

Views from....

## THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

I got a call last week at the Rec Center from a lady that wanted to know where she could buy some Girl Scout cookies. As my girls grew up in the scouts I was very active in the annual cookie sale and even served as cookie chairman one year, but those days ended last year and now I have officially retired as a Girl Scout Dad. I did give her the number of a parent that should have been able to help, but thought it was kind of funny that when someone thought about buying Girl Scout cookies they would call me.

### FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

\*\*\* The Elba Tigers hosted Slocomb over the weekend on their newly renovated field and played the role of gracious hosts as they committed 12 errors in two games to allow the Red Tops to take a sweep of the doubleheader. Slocomb did knock the ball around the park pretty well at times, but had much of its success laying down bunts and watching the Elba infield trying to get somebody out. Elba did play well at times, but other times the Tigers seemed confused and unsure what to do and where to throw the ball. Elba's Coach Mike Buckelew was quoted last week in a daily newspaper talking about the experience of this season's team and how he had high hopes for a long run in the playoffs. I know I didn't go to that many games last season, but the Tigers lost their number one starter on the mound, as well as their catcher, first baseman and third baseman, and have new starters all around the infield and at one spot on the outfield. I'll admit the players have been in the program. However, I disagree with their experience and am afraid that until they get quite a bit more actual game experience they could struggle. Better days are ahead, but it may take longer than many think before this bunch jells into winners.

\*\*\* The Elba Lady Tigers won't play their first softball game until next week and have to be pacing in the dugout waiting to hit the field and compete against another team. The Lady Tigers will be young in many positions and for the most part lack varsity experience, but have a group of girls that have played the sport for years in summer leagues and travel teams, and should be competitive against most of the teams on their schedule. One thing for certain - this team should get better and better each and every time they hit the field.

\*\*\* A look around the area finds baseball and softball season in full swing at the high school level. In baseball, New Brockton has chalked up a couple of impressive wins and may be a team to keep an eye on in the 2A ranks, while Zion Chapel has already hung a few wins on its side of the scoreboard and could very well be a post-season contender in 1A circles. Kinston opened its season with a big loss to Elba and will have to play its best to win, and Brantley dropped a game to 6A Carver, but should be solid and should be around when the post-season action begins. Over in softball, New Brockton whipped up on Arton last week and proved my predictions correct that the Lady Gamecocks would indeed be a team to watch this season. These girls have been playing together for years and have been joined by some very talented youngsters that have played summer ball and travel ball. Anything can happen in sports, but I will be surprised if New Brockton doesn't have the top team in the area! Zion Chapel also posted a win last week and will be better than ever, while Brantley is almost ready to start and should also be solid. The big news in area softball last week was the heart-breaking news that Kinston pitcher Bethany Holley had torn her ACL and would be lost for the season. Bethany has been one of the most under-rated softball players in South Alabama for years and this was supposed to be the year she stepped to the forefront and led the Lady Bulldogs back to the state finals. The talented youngster will still have two more years left in her high school career next season after a long rehab session, and I know she will battle back and be even better than ever when she returns. Good luck Bethany, all our thoughts are with you.

\*\*\* The South Alabama Speedway opened its season last weekend in Kinston and Friday night there was a lot of interest for many Elba fans as Chase Boutwell drove a car in the Coyote Class. Chase graduated from Elba last spring and was a standout in football and baseball, but has now hung up his cleats and pulled on a fire suit to compete on the racetrack. In his debut, the young Elba driver started in the rear of the pack and came roaring back to almost make the top ten. Looks like the racing season down at Kinston might be a little more interesting than ever.

\*\*\* The state high school basketball tournament was held last week in Birmingham and it wasn't the best of times for the teams from South Alabama. In boys play, LeFlore was upset in the opening round of 6A action and failed to repeat, while Bullock County did get its first-ever crown in 4A and R.C. Hatch repeated in 1A. On the girls side, Eufaula brought home the title in 5A, while Samson lost in its opener and failed to make it a three-peat and McIntosh saw its streak of two straight titles also come to an end. The South had a great time in football, but the roundball didn't roll its way.

\*\*\* In closing.... Troy University has completely renovated its baseball facility and now has one of the most unique fields in the nation. The infield and outfield is artificial turf, as are the base paths. The only difference is the infield and the base paths is that the turf is cut shorter for the players to slide. I saw a highlight of a game played recently and a visiting player stole second and slid all the way out into the outfield on the slick artificial surface. I guess that is truly a homefield advantage.

### In season opening doubleheader

## Tigers split with New Brockton

The Elba Tigers hit the road last week to open the 2008 high school baseball season against their cross-county rivals from New Brockton and split a doubleheader with the Gamecocks to head back home with a 1-1 record.

"We had been practicing a long time and really needed to play," said Elba's Coach Mike Buckelew. "We didn't hit the ball real well and made some mistakes on defense, but played every player on the roster in the two games and now have a better idea of what we need to work on in the coming days. There is a lot of baseball left ahead and as we gain some experience I think we'll be okay."

Following are highlights of last week's season opening doubleheader:

### Elba 6 New Brockton 4

The Elba Tigers pulled even late in the game and then needed an extra inning to pull ahead as they claimed the opener 6-4 over the host New Brockton Gamecocks.

Elba missed a chance to grab an early lead in the top of the first inning after one-out singles by Garrett Kyser and Richard Cooks, and managed only one base runner over the next three innings.

New Brockton moved ahead 2-0 on the two-run double by Kyle Purvis. Justin Allen delivered a one-out single in the fifth to pump life back into the Tiger offense, and after pinch-runner Sandarius Reed stole second, Dylan McCollough came with a clutch rbi single to put the Tigers on the scoreboard. Garrett Kyser added a two-out double to knock in McCollough and leading into the bottom of the fifth Elba had pulled even at 2-2.

The score remained tied at 2-2 as the county rivals headed into the eighth inning. However, the extra inning was filled with action as the two teams combined to score six runs and Elba held on to claim the wild 6-4 win.

Don Rhoades and Garrett Kyser led off the extra inning with back-to-back singles and moved up a base on a sacrifice bunt by Richard Cooks. Justin Mallory ripped an rbi single to put the Tigers on top 3-2, and Colton Vaughan followed with a two-run single as the lead grew to 5-2. Vaughan later scored



OUT BY A STEP.... Elba Tiger catcher Bradley Wilson keeps a foot on the plate and stretches to make the catch to retire a Slocomb runner at the plate in action Saturday. Wilson hit a home-run in the opening game of the doubleheader, but it was the only Elba run as the Tigers were swept by the Red Tops.

(Photo by Mike Capps)

earned runs on six hits and struck-out eleven batters.

### New Brockton 11 Elba 4

The Elba Tigers fell behind early and this time had no answer as New Brockton earned a split with an 11-4 win.

The Tigers went down in order in each of the opening three innings. However, the Gamecocks enjoyed a much better time at the plate as they combined 4 hits with 4 walks to open up an 8-0 lead after three innings. Back-to-back doubles in the second inning by Shane Addison and Hayden Smith, were key hits in the early explosion, while Seth Culverhouse also delivered an rbi single.

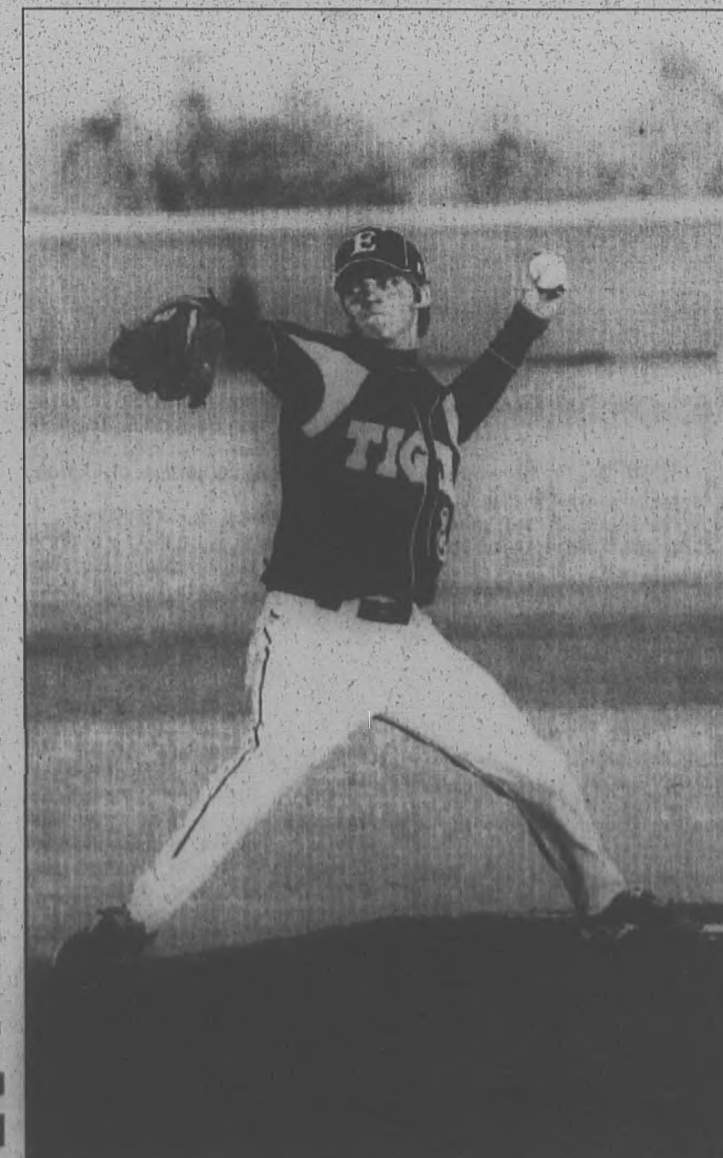
Elba's Don Rhoades ripped a lead off single in the fourth to give the Tigers their first base runner of the game, while Garrett Kyser was then hit by a pitch to put two Tigers on base. Rhoades scored on an rbi double by Richard Cooks and Michael

Spurlin followed with a two-run single as Elba showed signs of life and cut the lead to 8-3.

The Tigers added a late run on an rbi single by Spurlin, but left the bases loaded in the seventh and took the loss 11-4.

Michael Spurlin had 3 hits and knocked in 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Don Rhoades added 2 hits and scored 1 run and Richard Cooks added 1 hit, scored 2 runs and knocked in 1 run. Dylan McCollough also added 1 hit for the Tigers. McCollough was tagged with the loss on the mound as he pitched three innings and allowed seven runs (two earned runs) on two hits and five walks.

Nathan Foster had 2 hits and scored 3 runs to lead New Brockton, while Shane Addison and Justin Griswold both added 2 hits and scored 2 runs. Kyle Purvis was the winning pitcher as he tossed six innings and allowed only three hits and struck out 12 batters.



Elba Tiger pitcher Don Rhoades prepares to deliver a pitch in action last week. Rhoades picked up his first win of the season against New Brockton.

(Photo by Mike Capps)

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### FINAL REGISTRATION DEADLINE

The final day for boys and girls ages 3-18 to register to play baseball or softball in Elba is Friday, March 7 at 5:00 PM. Teams have been chosen and after this date players will not be added to existing teams.

# SPORTS

## High School SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

### \*\*\* Baseball \*\*\*

#### Zion Chapel splits doubleheader with Eagles

The Zion Chapel Rebels regrouped after a game one loss last Tuesday afternoon to split a doubleheader with Pleasant Home. In the opening game the Rebels dropped a 9-3 decision, despite 2 hits by Joe Davis, including a home run. In the second game the Rebels rolled to a big 19-3 victory. Joe Davis was the winning pitcher, while at the plate Matt Brunson sparked Zion Chapel with 4 hits, including two doubles and a triple, and four rbi's. Lantz Walden added 3 hits and knocked in 4 runs. Justin Winters added 3 hits. Joey Jones ripped a home run and Davis and Garrett Simson both had doubles.

#### Zion Chapel JV outscore Purple Cats 17-12

The Zion Chapel JV won a wild one last Tuesday afternoon as they outscored the Arton Purple Cats 17-12. Samson Dismukes had 5 hits to spark the Rebels, while Wesley Black scored 4 runs.

#### New Brockton splits with Geneva County

The New Brockton Gamecocks tangled with the Geneva County Bulldogs Friday afternoon and split a doubleheader as the Gamecocks won the opener 5-0 and dropped the second game 11-1. In the win, Shane Addison had 3 hits and ripped a home-run, while Nathan Foster was the winning pitcher as he tossed a two-hitter and struck out 10 batters.

### \*\*\* Softball \*\*\*

#### Kinston Lady Bulldogs pop Providence 16-1

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs opened their regular season last Monday afternoon with an easy 16-1 win over highly touted Christian. Hollie Kilcrease had 3 hits, scored 2 runs and knocked in 5 runs to lead Kinston at the plate, while Katie Mottelet, Heather Marlowe and Tasha Jones all scored 3 runs. Bethany Holley suffered a season-ending knee injury in the game, but got the win inside the circle as she pitched three innings and allowed 2 hits. Sara Mock got the save as she faced seven batters and struck out six.

#### Lady Gamecocks surprise Arton 9-5

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks opened their season last Tuesday afternoon with an impressive 9-5 win over highly touted Arton. The Lady Gamecocks scored 3 runs in their initial at-bat to take command early and never looked back to claim the win. Shay Carpenter, Vanessa Stuckey and Danley Mock all scored 2 runs to lead New Brockton, while Chelsea Holloway pitched five innings to get the win and Kurstie Stanton pitched two scoreless innings in relief.

### \*\*\* Golf \*\*\*

#### New Brockton places third in four-team match

The New Brockton Gamecock golf team opened its season last week in a four-team match at Andalusia and placed third. Andalusia won the event with a 327 total, followed by Enterprise (346), New Brockton (381) and Charles Henderson (390). Scores for the Gamecocks were Michael Reed 78, Steven Smith 80, Colton Bastion 110, John Donaldson 113, Sawyer Whitaker 120 and Josh Roberts 131.

## High School SPORTS SCHEDULE

### \* Baseball \*

**Friday, March 7**  
Brantley, at Crenshaw County Tournament

**Saturday, March 8**  
Elba at Slocomb (2:00) DH

Brantley, at Crenshaw County Tournament

**Monday, March 10**  
New Brockton at Elba (6:00)

Brantley at Greenville (6:00)

### \* Softball \*

**Friday, March 7**  
Zion Chapel at Goshen (4:00) JV-V

Kinston, at Auburn Tournament

**Saturday, March 8**  
Zion Chapel, at Highland Home Tournament

Kinston, at Auburn Tournament

**Monday, March 10**  
Kinston at Opp (4:00) JV-V

**Tuesday, March 11**  
Wicksburg at Elba (4:00) JV-V

Samson at Kinston (4:30) JV-V



Elba Tiger Garrett Kyser (8) applies the brakes after finding his path back to first base blocked by a Slocomb infielder. The Tigers will travel to Slocomb this weekend for a rematch against the undefeated Red Tops.

(Photo by Mike Capps)

### 9-1,10-5

## Elba swept by Slocomb

The Elba Tigers hosted the Slocomb Red Tops Saturday afternoon in a doubleheader and saw their record slip to 2-3 as they dropped both ends of the twin bill by the scores of 9-1 and 10-5.

"We made too many errors to win against a team as solid as Slocomb," said Elba's Coach Mike Buckelew. "We made fielding errors and mental errors, and simply didn't play well enough to win. We have some new players in some key spots, and they will have to get on the job training as the season goes along. We will work hard to be better prepared in the upcoming games and will play better than we did against Slocomb."

Following are highlights of the two games:

### Slocomb 9 Elba 1

The Elba Tigers fell behind early and never challenged in a 9-1 loss to Slocomb, in the opening game of the doubleheader. The Red Tops banged out 4 hits over the first two innings to grab an early 2-0 lead, and combined 5 hits with 1 walk in the top of the fourth to move ahead 5-0. Elba got on the scoreboard in the bottom of the fourth on a solo home-run by Bradley Wilson, but stranded four runners on base in the closing three innings and took the 9-1 loss.

Bradley Wilson had 2 hits, including a solo homer, to lead Elba at the plate, while Don Rhoades, Colton Vaughan and Andrew Head all added 1 hit. Don Rhoades was saddled with the loss on the mound as he pitched five innings and allowed nine runs (five earned runs) on twelve hits and one walk.

The Tigers added four hits in the final two innings, but failed to plate any runs, while Slocomb scored one run in each of their final two trips to the plate and left town with the 10-5 win and the double-header sweep.

Michael Spurlin had 3 hits and knocked in 1 run to lead Elba at the plate, while Colton Vaughan added 2 hits, scored 2 runs and collected 2 rbi's and Devin Jackson added 2 hits and scored 1 run. Dylan McCollough, Andrew Head and Don Rhoades all added 2 hits, while Bradley Wilson, Justin Mallory, Richard Cooks and Brock Lambert all added 1 hit.

The Tigers out hit the Red Tops 17-10, but committed 10 errors and stranded 8 runners on base. Richard Cooks was tagged with the loss on the mound as he pitched four innings and allowed six runs (two earned runs) on three hits.

### THE FOUR WAY TEST

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- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

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A New Brockton Gamecock infielder gets down on one knee to make a stop in recent high school baseball action. The Gamecocks hit the field twice last week and earned doubleheader splits with Elba and Geneva County.

(Photo by Mike Capps)



A Zion Chapel Lady Rebel makes a catch at first base during recent high school softball action. The Lady Bulldogs will compete this weekend at a tournament at Highland Home High School.

(Photo by Mike Capps)



A Kinston Lady Bulldog stretches to make a catch in recent JV softball action. The Lady Bulldogs competed last weekend in Troy and this weekend will travel to Auburn.

(Photo by Mike Capps)

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## TOWN

(Continued from Page One)

Council member Vicky Harrison said she had attended a meeting held recently by the event organizers. She said it appears gates will open for campers on Wednesday of that week and events will not get underway until Thursday. Also, she said the people will be coming and going when they've got free time.

With this in mind, Harrison said New Brockton needs to think of ways to capitalize with these people coming to town. She said the people might want to buy gas, eat at the restaurant, etc.

Also during Monday's meeting, council members approved a request from Fire Chief Greg Lee to have a fire truck on site during Bamalam. His request indicated the City of Enterprise also will have a truck on site during the event.

Town clerk Annette Williams reported that two people addressed the council during a recent work session regarding proposals for use of the drill hall in the town hall building. She said one request was for a gun show and the second request was for a dance to be on Saturday nights when held.

Council members did not take any action of the gun show

request saying that would wait until the organizer came back with more definite plans and information. However, they did act on the request for the dance(s).

Council member Vicky Harrison made a motion with a second from council member Cal Donnia Howard to allow for the dances to be held with the stipulation that the town can stop them at any time if problems arise. This motion passed with no opposition.

Also during the meeting, Harrison announced an upcoming event for the public. She said a Fun Day in the Park will be held Saturday, March 22, from 2-5 p.m. in the town's park. She said the event will include an Easter egg hunt and much more with activities for all ages. Harrison also said she hopes this will become an annual event.

The New Brockton Town Hall will be closed Friday, March 21, in observance of Good Friday.



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## Shuffling Through Our Files...

(News Taken From Past Editions of The Elba Clipper)

### 10 Years Ago

• **Ben Ringsdorf buried in Arlington** - Elba native and ex-POW Dr. Herbert Benjamin Ringsdorf, "Ben" to Elba folks, was found dead of an apparent heart attack in his Mobile, Ala. home on Friday, February 13, 1998. Ringsdorf was buried in Arlington National Cemetery with 10 of his prisoner-of-war comrades looking on. The rainy, dreary day was interrupted by sunrays breaking through the clouds as the solemn ceremony got underway.

• **Warren Simmons receives his Purple Heart** - After 53 years, an Elba soldier has received his award for bravery in action in the U.S. Army during World War II. PFC Warren R. Simmons finally was awarded the Purple Heart after a year of effort by his daughter, Deborah Hornsby of New Brockton. Simmons was inducted into the Army at Ft. McClellan, Ala. and honorably discharged at Jefferson Barracks, MO. He served in Rhineland, Normandy and central Europe, receiving wounds in France.

### 20 Years Ago

• **County engineer defends plans to use herbicide** - The herbicide spraying of roadways across the state by the state highway department has drawn recent criticism from Alabama Attorney General Don Siegelman and, while similar program is planned by the highway department in Coffee County, county engineer Mark

plans to use herbicide. The herbicide spraying of roadways across the state by the state highway department has drawn recent criticism from Alabama Attorney General Don Siegelman and, while similar program is planned by the highway department in Coffee County, county engineer Mark

There will be special music at each service. Everyone is welcome.

### 40 Years Ago

• **Kite Soars 3,200 Feet On Tuesday** - Two local youths, Stevie Daniels and Keith Boswell, reported setting a new record for high kite flying Tuesday afternoon. It is not known the record will stand but the boys launched one 3,200 feet high and the only way they knew there was a kite on the other end of the string was "It was there when we started."

• **Red Cross Drive Launched In Elba This Week** - The Elba Red Cross Chapter has launched a fun drive to pump new life into the local chapter. This drive is necessary if Elba is to continue to have the benefits of the Red Cross, according to the Drive Chairmen, Mrs. John Kimmy and Mrs. Bill Pierce. The chapter has set a \$2,800 goal to support the Blood Program and the services to local military personnel serving both stateside and in Vietnam.

• **First Baptist BWC Celebrates 21st Anniversary** - The B.W.C. of the First Baptist Church celebrated their 21st Anniversary with a covered dish supper Monday night, March 3. Mrs. J.W. Kendrick presented the guest speaker, Mrs. Bryan Taylor, who gave a review on the book, "The Day Christ Died."

The financial statement reflects income some \$150,000 above expected amounts, half of it from state or federal grant receipts. Also fueling the income pot were some categories that are mostly once a year incomes. These include the city business licenses, property taxes and the funds for upkeep of the Evergreen Cemetery.

Reading on down the financial statement increased expenditures in several categories dampen any excitement about extra money in the city coffers. Total expenditures exceeded the budget by about \$90,000.

Administrative expenses were up, with the largest item being the one-time payment of annual interest expenses of \$105,315. In fairness, several of the line items in this group were below budget including insurance and auditor.

Also over projections were appropriations, police department, street department, sanitation department, debt retirement and capital expenditures. The capital expenditures coverage is a bookkeeping quirk, as it is due to paying for a paving project in last year's budget in this fiscal year. Appropriations saw Chamber of Commerce, Mental Health, Human Resources, Rescue Squad, and the Elba Public Library exceeding budgeted appropriations.

The police vehicle repair, prisoner expense, animal control, uniforms, supplies, telephone and training all exceeded budget by almost \$7,000.

The street department was over by some \$6,000 with salaries accounting for most of that amount.

The sanitation department exceed budget in all three of the itemized categories in that department - salaries, fuel and landfill fees. However, the total overage was only about \$3,000 in a \$63,000 budget.

Westbrook announced she will not seek reelection to Coffee County Commission

At the conclusion of the Coffee County Commission meeting Monday, March 10, District 1 Commissioner Linda Westbrook surprised fellow commissioners as she announced she will not seek reelection this year.

Westbrook said she decided last week to not seek reelection as Coffee County Commissioner representing District 1.

"It's been a very, very rewarding 12 years," Westbrook said. "But, I've decided to not seek reelection."

Westbrook indicated she had said last year that she would not run, but since then had changed her mind. She said she got very excited about a couple of current projects, namely the methane gas project at the landfill and the

water reservoir. However, she said she examined her options again last week and decided it was time to move on to other ventures.

Commissioner Westbrook said she originally sought election in 1996 with the implementation of the county water system being a top priority on her agenda. On Monday, she said she feels she reached that goal now that the county's water system is in place and operating.

In her third term as a Coffee County Commissioner, Westbrook said there are many, many completed projects that she is proud to have been a part of including the paving of roads, construction of senior citizen centers and much more.

When her term ends later this year, Westbrook said she looks forward to focusing more time on her family and business.

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the lap top computers to take quizzes. The students email the completed quizzes to her, she checks them and sends the quiz back to the students.

Akridge also noted the lab offers Internet capability for teaching and even allows students to take visual field trips.

The eventual goal of ACCESS is to provide a 21st century distance learning classroom for every Alabama high school (schools serving grades 9-12).

While Elba's lab is not yet being used for sharing content, the lab is being utilized in the house. Some math and English classes are being taught in the lab, and the anatomy and physiology classes have used it as well.

The lab also enables students to learn using a wide array of multimedia resources and hands-on learning opportunities that address individual learning styles.

Elba High math teacher Yvette Akridge utilizes the lab with some of her classes. She said the students are able to use

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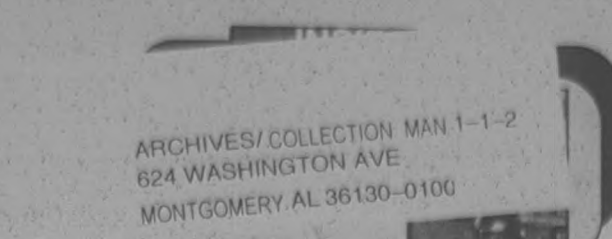
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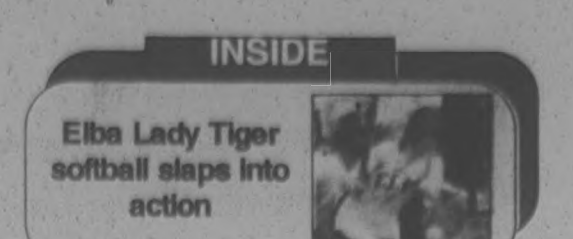
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INSIDE  
FCA Sweetheart  
pageants held at  
Zion Chapel



INSIDE  
Elba Lady Tiger  
softball slips into  
action

# The Elba Clipper

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Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 13, 2008

1 Section, 16 Pages

## During Elba City Council meeting

### Report reveals busy February for police department

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council handled routine business Monday evening, which included paying the monthly bills and reviewing the financial statement for the first four months of the fiscal year.

The financial statement reflects income some \$150,000 above expected amounts, half of it from state or federal grant receipts. Also fueling the income pot were some categories that are mostly once a year incomes. These include the city business licenses, property taxes and the funds for upkeep of the Evergreen Cemetery.

Reading on down the financial statement increased expenditures in several categories dampen any excitement about extra money in the city coffers. Total expenditures exceeded the budget by about \$90,000.

Administrative expenses were up, with the largest item being the one-time payment of annual interest expenses of \$105,315. In fairness, several of the line items in this group were below budget including insurance and auditor.

Also over projections were appropriations, police department, street department, sanitation department, debt retirement and capital expenditures.

The capital expenditures coverage is a bookkeeping quirk, as it is due to paying for a paving project in last year's budget in this fiscal year. Appropriations saw Chamber of Commerce, Mental Health, Human Resources, Rescue Squad, and the Elba Public Library exceeding budgeted appropriations.

The police vehicle repair, prisoner expense, animal control, uniforms, supplies, telephone and training all exceeded budget by almost \$7,000.

The street department was over by some \$6,000 with salaries accounting for most of that amount.

The sanitation department exceed budget in all three of the itemized categories in that department - salaries, fuel and landfill fees. However, the total overage was only about \$3,000 in a \$63,000 budget.

Westbrook announced she will not seek reelection to Coffee County Commission

At the conclusion of the Coffee County Commission meeting Monday, March 10, District 1 Commissioner Linda Westbrook surprised fellow commissioners as she announced she will not seek reelection this year.

Westbrook said she decided last week to not seek reelection as Coffee County Commissioner representing District 1.

"It's been a very, very rewarding 12 years," Westbrook said. "But, I've decided to not seek reelection."

Westbrook indicated she had said last year that she would not run, but since then had changed her mind. She said she got very excited about a couple of current projects, namely the methane gas project at the landfill and the

water reservoir. However, she said she examined her options again last week and decided it was time to move on to other ventures.

Commissioner Westbrook said she originally sought election in 1996 with the implementation of the county water system being a top priority on her agenda. On Monday, she said she feels she reached that goal now that the county's water system is in place and operating.

In her third term as a Coffee County Commissioner, Westbrook said there are many, many completed projects that she is proud to have been a part of including the paving of roads, construction of senior citizen centers and much more.

When her term ends later this year, Westbrook said she looks forward to focusing more time on her family and business.

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The debt retirement items will even out as the year progresses. These are fixed annual payments and are not made in the exact same amounts in all 12 months.

In other business council members heard Police Chief Freddy Hancey report a busy weekend but everything seems to be under control. The chief also gave council members a detailed copy of the February activity report.

The report showed 219 traffic tickets issued, along with 197 warnings. There was only one DUI ticket written during February. However, there were six drug arrests and 42 other criminal arrests.

Police cars patrolled for a total of 16,840 miles during the month.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham again issued a plea for motorists to drive carefully along U.S. 84 West which continues to be congested in the construction areas.

ACCIDENT SENDS TWO TO THE HOSPITAL...Shortly after 5 p.m. Friday, March 7, the Elba Fire Department responded to the scene of an automobile accident on Alabama Highway 125. The accident was reported at approximately 5:19 p.m., and emergency responders were immediately dispatched. Upon arrival, they found a small sedan on the roadway and overturned. The vehicle landed upside down (as shown above). The driver and a passenger were each transported from the scene by units from Coffee County EMS to Elba General Hospital to receive treatment for injuries sustained in the accident. Reportedly, the injuries were not believed to be serious. Also responding to the scene were officers with the Elba Police Department and Alabama State Troopers.

Coffee County BOE applauds Zion Chapel's involvement with county Relay for Life event

plans activities. Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram said the school is hoping to meet their \$10,000 again this year. Several fund raising events for Relay for Life already are underway at the school.

"They've done a wonderful job," Ingram said.

She added that the success of this event is aided by "good folks working together."

Board members applauded the school and students for past and present participation in this event and wished them well with this year's Relay for Life.

In regards to personnel, board members accepted three resignations and approved one employment.

Atop the resignation list was Dirk Strunk. Board members approved his resignation as social studies teacher, head football coach and athletic director at New Brockton High School, effective the end of the current school year.

Board members also accepted the resignation of Joy Woodford, K-6 collaborative teacher at New Brockton Elementary School, effective the end of the current school year.

Ashley Sheffield resigned as sponsor of the Zion Chapel Junior High cheerleaders, and board members approved the employment of Chelsie Simmons as the new sponsor of the Zion Chapel junior high cheerleaders. Simmons already is employed as a kindergarten teacher at Zion Chapel School.

Board members voted during

Annual Southeast Alabama Community Band concert set for March 24th in Elba

The Southeast Alabama Community Band, under the direction of Dr. John M. Long, will perform at the Elba High School auditorium on Monday, March 24, at 7:30 p.m.

The band's 58 members come from many communities in southeast Alabama and southwest Georgia. They have played in military bands, college bands, or are currently high school or junior high school band directors in the area.

Many other professional people are represented including university faculty members, retired military personnel, business, medical doctors, radio talk show hosts and other experience musicians. They all play simply for the joy of playing.

The program will include Sousa marches, Broadway show

tunes, traditional band classics and outstanding soloists. One of the great classical selections to be included is the Overture to the "Barber of Seville" by G. Rossini, at the Elba High School auditorium on Monday, March 24, at 7:30 p.m.

Ray Smith, who was recently featured at the Davis Theater and has played with many famous named bands, will be the feature soloist. He will sing a medley of George Gershwin's popular musical standards.

Elba's own 8-year charter member of the band, Tom Maddox, is happy to be performing in his hometown and will be directing one of the numbers on the program. The one hour concert, which is sponsored by the City of Elba, is free and the public is invited to attend.

THE ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is planning a Legislative Breakfast for Friday, March 21. For more information, contact the Elba Chamber of Commerce at 897-3125.

THE MISS ELBA PAGEANTS will be held Saturday evening, March 15, at the Elba High School auditorium. Queens will be crowned in five categories: Future Miss Elba, Little Miss Elba, Young Miss Elba, Junior Miss Elba and Miss Elba. The pageants, sponsored by the New Seasons Study Club, are scheduled to begin at 6 p.m.

THE LOWER ALABAMA VETERANS ALLIANCE (LAVA) will hold its regular monthly meeting Monday, March 17, at noon at Ryan's Restaurant on the Boll Weevil Circle in Enterprise. The guest speaker will be Alabama State Senator Jimmy Holley. All veterans and their families are invited to attend. Lunch is buffet style self-pay at the door. The meeting with Senator Holley will be followed by an abbreviated LAVA business meeting. For more information, call Fred Griffin at (334) 445-1683 days or evenings.

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